



## Verbs . . .

### Tenses of Verbs

#### 774.1

##### Present Perfect Tense Verbs

The present perfect tense verb expresses action that began in the past but continues or is completed in the present. The present perfect tense is formed by adding *has* or *have* to the past participle. (Also see page 544.)

**I have wondered for some time how the stars got their names.**

**A visible star has emitted light for thousands of years.**

#### 774.2

##### Past Perfect Tense Verbs

The past perfect tense verb expresses action that began in the past and was completed in the past. This tense is formed by adding *had* to the past participle. (Also see page 544.)

**I had hoped to see a shooting star on our camping trip.**

#### 774.3

##### Future Perfect Tense Verbs

A future perfect tense verb expresses action that will begin in the future and will be completed by a specific time in the future. The future perfect tense is formed by adding *will have* to the past participle. (Also see page 544.)

**By the middle of this century, we probably will have discovered many more stars, planets, and galaxies.**

#### 774.4

##### Present Progressive Tense Verbs

A present progressive tense verb expresses action that is not completed at the time of stating it. The present progressive tense is formed by adding *am*, *is*, or *are* to the *ing* form of the main verb.

**Scientists are learning a great deal from their study of the sky.**

#### 774.5

##### Past Progressive Tense Verbs

A past progressive tense verb expresses action that was happening at a certain time in the past. This tense is formed by adding *was* or *were* to the *ing* form of the main verb.

**Astronomers were beginning their quest for knowledge hundreds of years ago.**

#### 774.6

##### Future Progressive Tense Verbs

A future progressive tense verb expresses action that will take place at a certain time in the future. This tense is formed by adding *will be* to the *ing* form of the main verb.

**Someday astronauts will be going to Mars.**

This tense can also be formed by adding a phrase noting the future (*are going to*) plus *be* to the *ing* form of the main verb.

**They are going to be performing many experiments.**

# Grammar Practice

## Verbs 4

### Perfect Tense Verbs



For each sentence below, choose the helping verb that best fits the sentence. Then write whether the entire verb tense is “present perfect,” “past perfect,” or “future perfect.”

**Example:** My family (*has, will have*) taken a driving vacation every year for the past eight years.  
*has (present perfect)*

1. Last year, we (*had, will have*) decided to drive from our home in Ohio to New Mexico.
2. Taking two-lane highways instead of the interstates, we (*had, will have*) wanted to see the “real” America.
3. This year, we’re going someplace we (*have, will have*) wanted to see for several years: Maine.
4. By the time we complete this year’s vacation, we (*had, will have*) driven in every state except Hawaii.

### Progressive Tense Verbs



For each sentence below, identify the underlined verb tense as “present progressive,” “past progressive,” or “future progressive.”

**Example:** I am looking forward to our time in Maine.  
*present progressive*

1. Originally, we were thinking of going to Montana.
2. I was trying to persuade everyone that we should go someplace we haven’t been before.
3. My suggestion worked; now we are planning the route we’ll take to Maine.
4. In just a few weeks, we will be loading the car for our trip.
5. For the first time, my brother is going to be driving some of the way.